



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Minutes 05/13/2008

VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP
MAY 13, 2008 MEETING

SPY POND COMMITTEE
Town Hall Annex, First Floor

In attendance: Bill Eykamp, Rita Filipowicz, Jacob Friis, Joey Glushko, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Uta Low, Stroker Rogovin. **Guest:** Michael Rademacher, Town Engineer.

Facilitator: Jacob Friis

Minutes: Rita Filipowicz and Elizabeth Karpati

Next meeting: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 10, 2008, Town Hall Annex, First Floor.

Recap of May 10 Trails Day:

- Fifteen volunteers participated in Trails Day. Liability waivers were collected from them and will be retained for the town's records. Three of the volunteers were Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) members. Clean-up status was reported as "good". About 60 percent of the poison ivy has been removed. No garlic mustard was removed.
- More publicity for future events was discussed. Joey Glushko informed the committee that events can be posted to the town web site upon request. In the future, personal contact with the Garden Club and the Boys and Girls Club to recruit volunteers will be made. A postcard announcing future Trails Days will be created and made available to the public.
- A sign asking Spy Pond visitors to please remove any waste they have created from the area will be made and posted.
- A second Trail Day will be added in the Fall after Town Day; it is thought that October might be a good month for it.

Relations with Mass Highway:

- Mass Highway has been approached regarding the relocation of the highway fence on Route 2. A representative seemed receptive to the request and progress is expected.
- A volunteer is needed to write a letter to Mass Highway regarding removal of the sandbar created at the pond. Jane Howard will speak to Clarissa Rowe about the best timing. The topic will be taken up again at the committee's June meeting.

Home Rule Legislation for Water Bodies:

- Jane Howard spoke with Representative Brownsberger regarding the proposed legislation. The bill has gone to committee. Representatives Brownsberger, Donato (Medford) and Garballey support it.
- Town Meeting has included \$15,000. in the budget for this purpose.

Recreation Department Canoe/Kayak Rentals:

- The Recreation Department is offering canoe/kayak rentals at the pond on five Sundays during the summer months. The first Sunday for the rentals was scheduled for May 11. The rentals were cancelled due to inclement weather and not enough sign-ups.
- Additional rentals are scheduled for Sundays, June 1, July 6, August 3 and September 14.
- Joey Glushko will send an email message to the town webmaster requesting that the event be posted. Jacob will publicize it on the Arlington List.

Other:

- Water treatment for weeds: An application for a permit has been filed and is under consideration. It is thought that it will be approved and will be actionable in 2009.
- Goose egg adding to curb overpopulation has been successful. The Health Department permit was used on April 12, 14, 16 and 24. It is thought that there are 19 nests and that 74 eggs were oiled. Nesting is light this year; in past years over 100 eggs were found and added.
- Outreach: Efforts were made to contact those who responded to the Vision 2020 survey distributed with the town census, and an orientation session with task group representatives has been held for them.
- The committee discussed the need to continue updating the old Spy Pond web site and the possibility of bringing it under the Town web site.
- Some members of the committee said they have azaleas and wild raspberries which could be planted around the pond.